



Beargrass Creek Trail Conceptual Shared Use Path & Ecological Restoration Plan



METRO PARKS
AND RECREATION



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Planning Project Funding

- 50% of funding is provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through Planning Assistance to States funds authorized under Section 22 of the Water Development & Resources Act of 1974.
- Metro Parks provides the 50% local match, through their budget and private funds.



Planning Team



TETRA TECH

- Mike Yost – Project Manager
- Chris Diehl – Civil Engineer
- Dennis Barnett, Julie Kaplan,
Nick Jokay - Ecological Restoration



- Jodi Smiley, Sarah Kopke-Jones – Shared Use Path



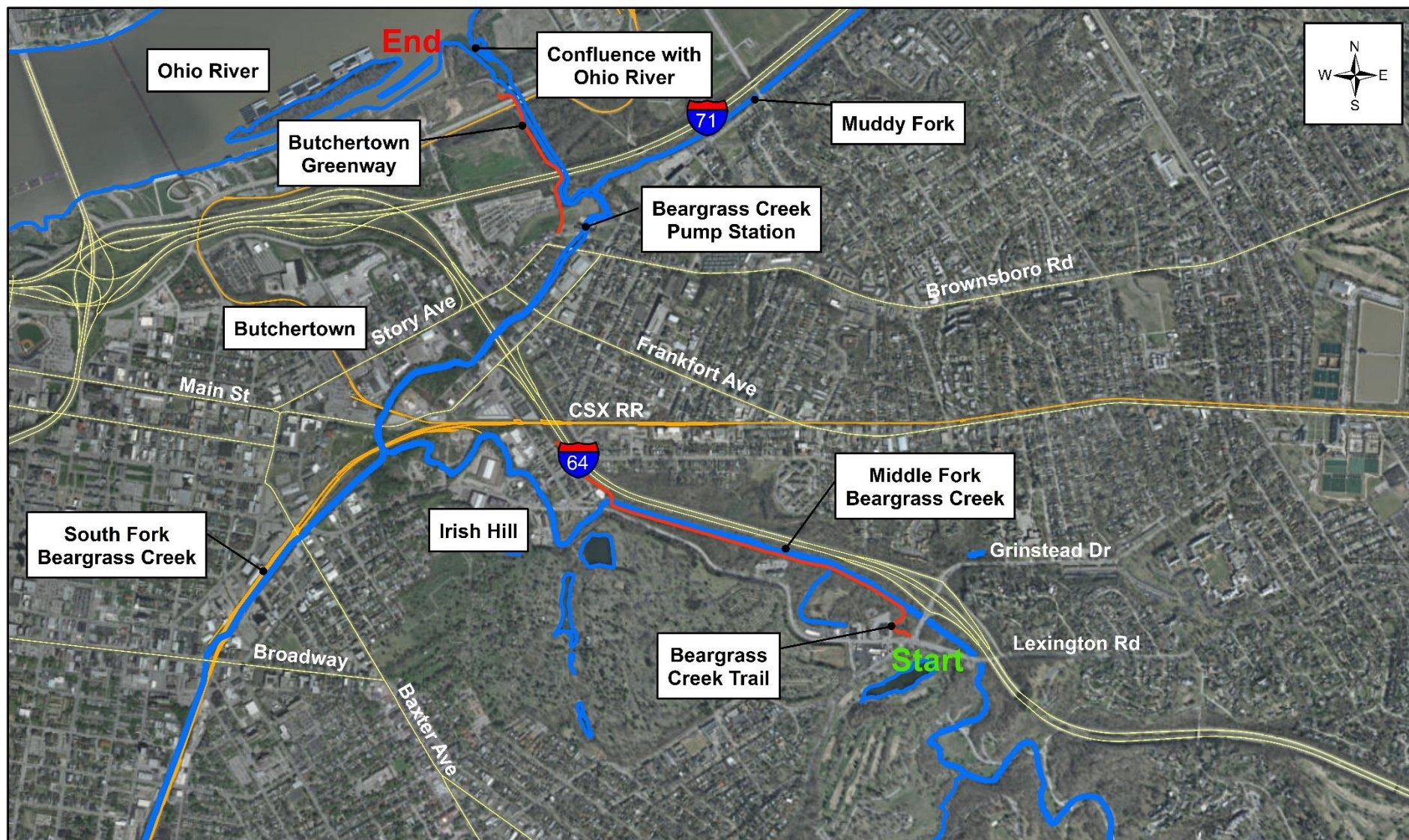
- Sarah Taylor – Ecological Restoration – Local Support





Beargrass Creek Trail

Project Area





Project Scope – Main Components

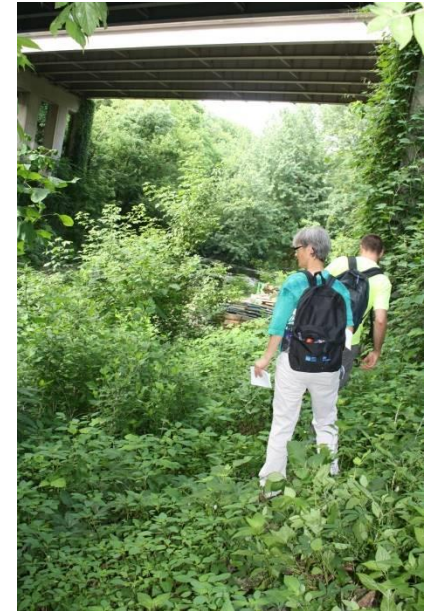
- Conceptual alignment plan for a shared use pathway through the project area. Preferred alignment order of preference:
 - Off-road and along the creek
 - Off-road
 - On-road along existing streets
- Identification of ways to improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and native plant species along Beargrass Creek within the project area.





Project Scope - Pathway

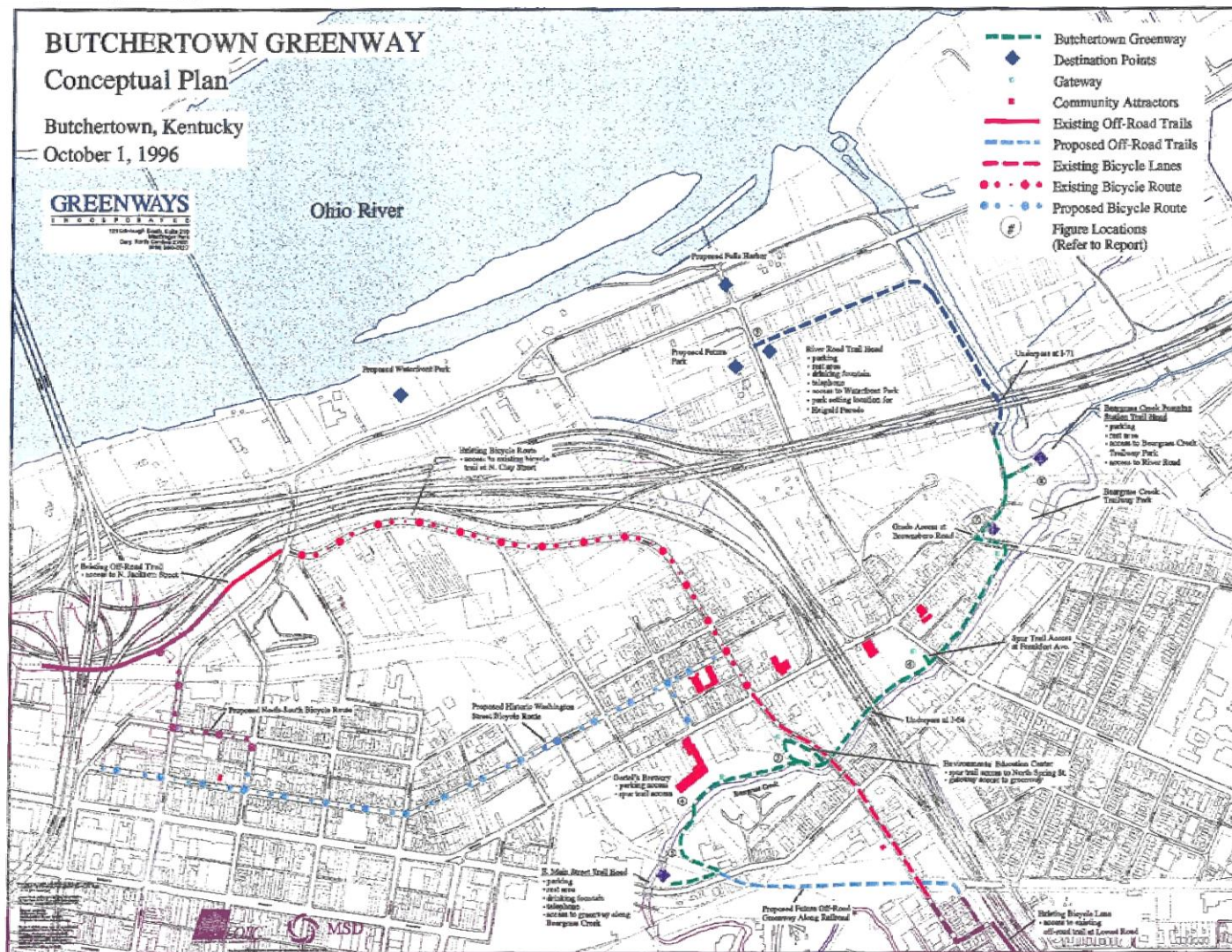
- Conceptual alignment plan of a pathway extending from Grinstead Drive/ Lexington Road intersection to the Butchertown Greenway near the Beargrass Creek Pump Station.
 - Generally follow the path of the 1996 Conceptual Plan. Two additional off-road alternatives, if feasible
 - Review available studies and previous reports on the project area.
 - Recommendations for Trailheads, Access Points for neighborhoods
 - Cultural/Historical - Opportunities for adaptive reuse & interpretation
 - Evaluate land use, land ownership, utilities, topography





Beargrass Creek Trail

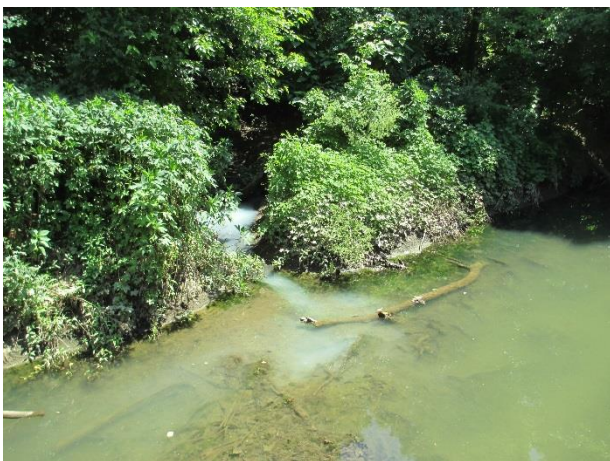
1996 Butchertown Greenway Conceptual Plan





Project Scope - Ecological

- Identify ways to improve water quality, wildlife habitat, and native plant species along Beargrass Creek in the project area.
 - Evaluate and recommend ecosystem restoration opportunities based on supplied, previously generated studies and reports.
 - General review of elements that may be required to physically, chemically or biologically restore or enhance Beargrass Creek.





Project Scope - Other

- Scoping Meeting – conducted in June
- 3 Public Meetings
 - Meeting 1 – Obtain input on potential shared path areas.
 - Meeting 2 – Mid-October. Present max 3 preliminary alignments and concepts for ecological restoration.
 - Meeting 3 – Early December. Present the preliminary preferred alignment
- Report submission at 35%, 90%, and 100% completion





Activities to Date

- Reviewed available studies and previous reports on the project area.
- Conducted kick-off and scoping meetings with USACE, Metro Parks, and Stakeholder groups.
- In July, the ecological team spent 4 days on-site surveying the project area.
- The pathway team has conducted several site visits to review field conditions.





Ecological Team

- Conducted a stream assessment within the project area. This included a general characterization of the stream channel and riparian buffer condition at representative locations, as well as a habitat assessment.
- Identified four wetland areas adjacent to Beargrass Creek.
- Dominant vegetation community types within the project area were identified and characterized.
- Identified several restoration opportunities along the stream reach.





Pathway Team

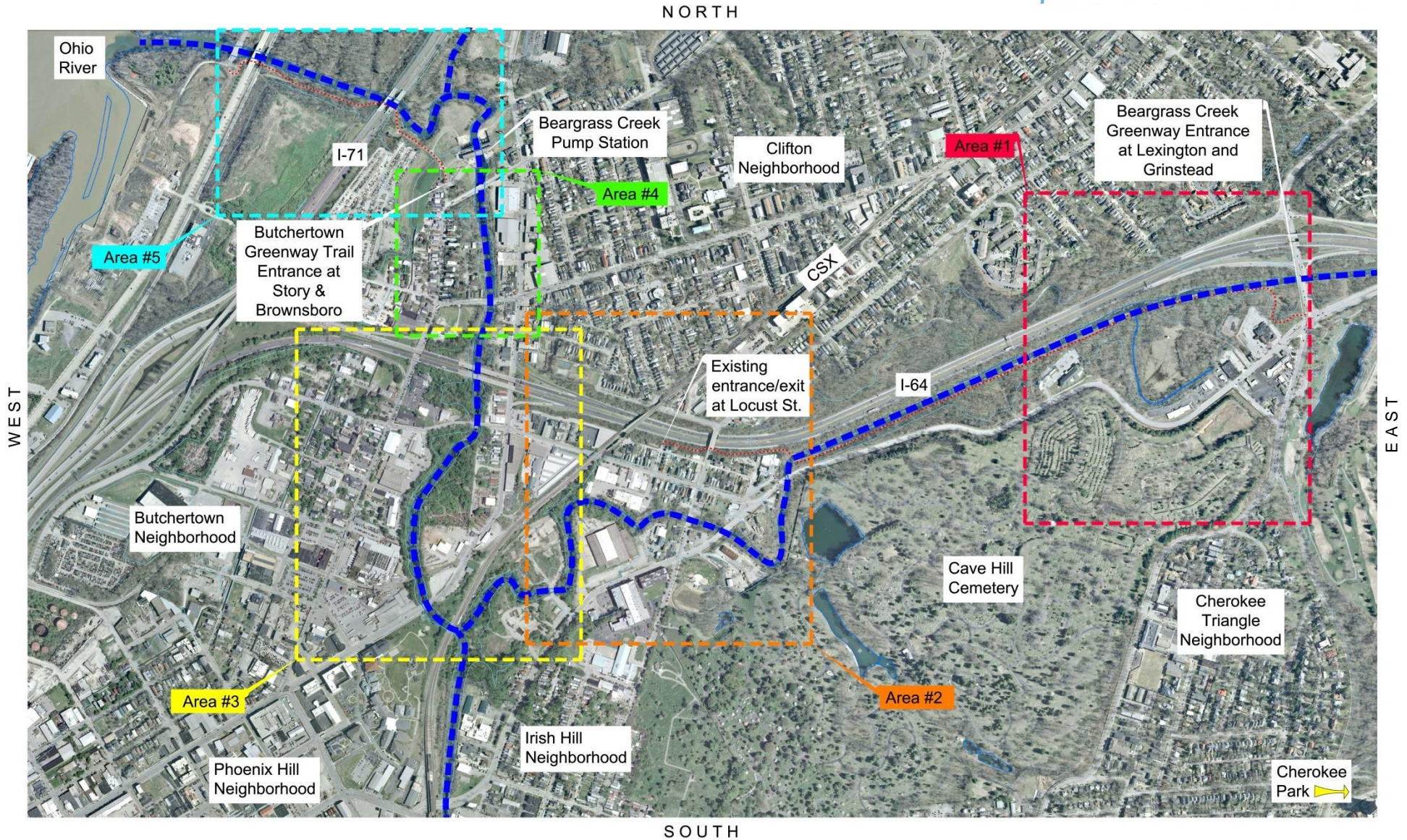
- Tonight we will present issues and opportunities for the pathway alignment in each segment of the corridor.
- We seek your input on pathway alignment at workstations that have been setup within the meeting area.





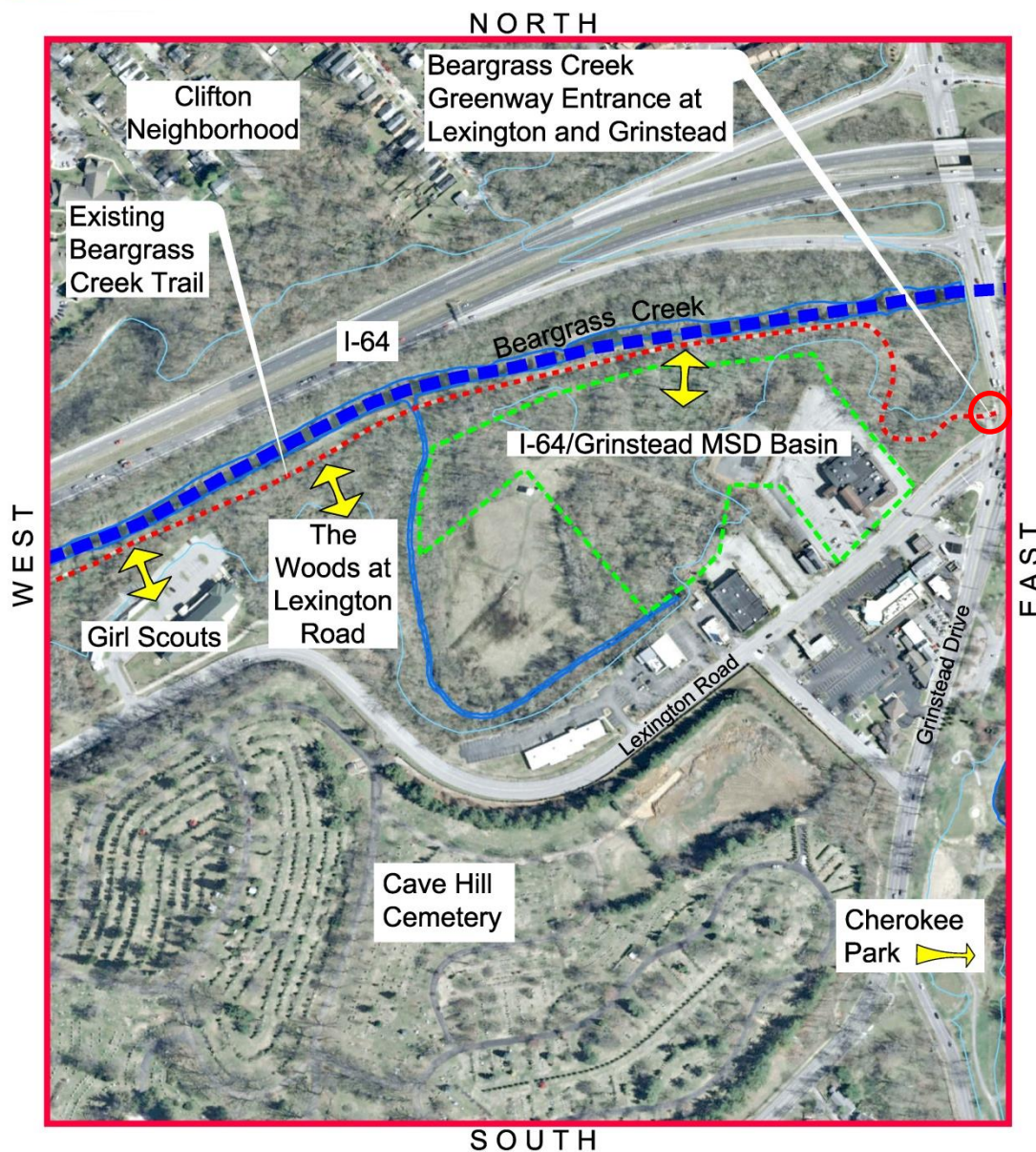
Beargrass Creek Trail

Project Limits and Focus Areas





Beargrass Creek Trail



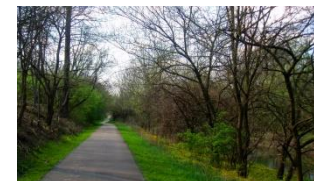
Opportunities:

Area #1

- Potential connection to MSD property
- Potential connection to the Woods at Lexington Road
- Connect to Girl Scouts property
- Re-examine current trail alignment
- Creek bank stabilization opportunities

Issues / Constraints :

- Existing trail flooding due to current trail elevation
- Excessive silt on trail unsafe
- Current creek alignment is confined between I-64 and adjacent properties





Beargrass Creek Trail

Beargrass Creek Greenway Trail Entry





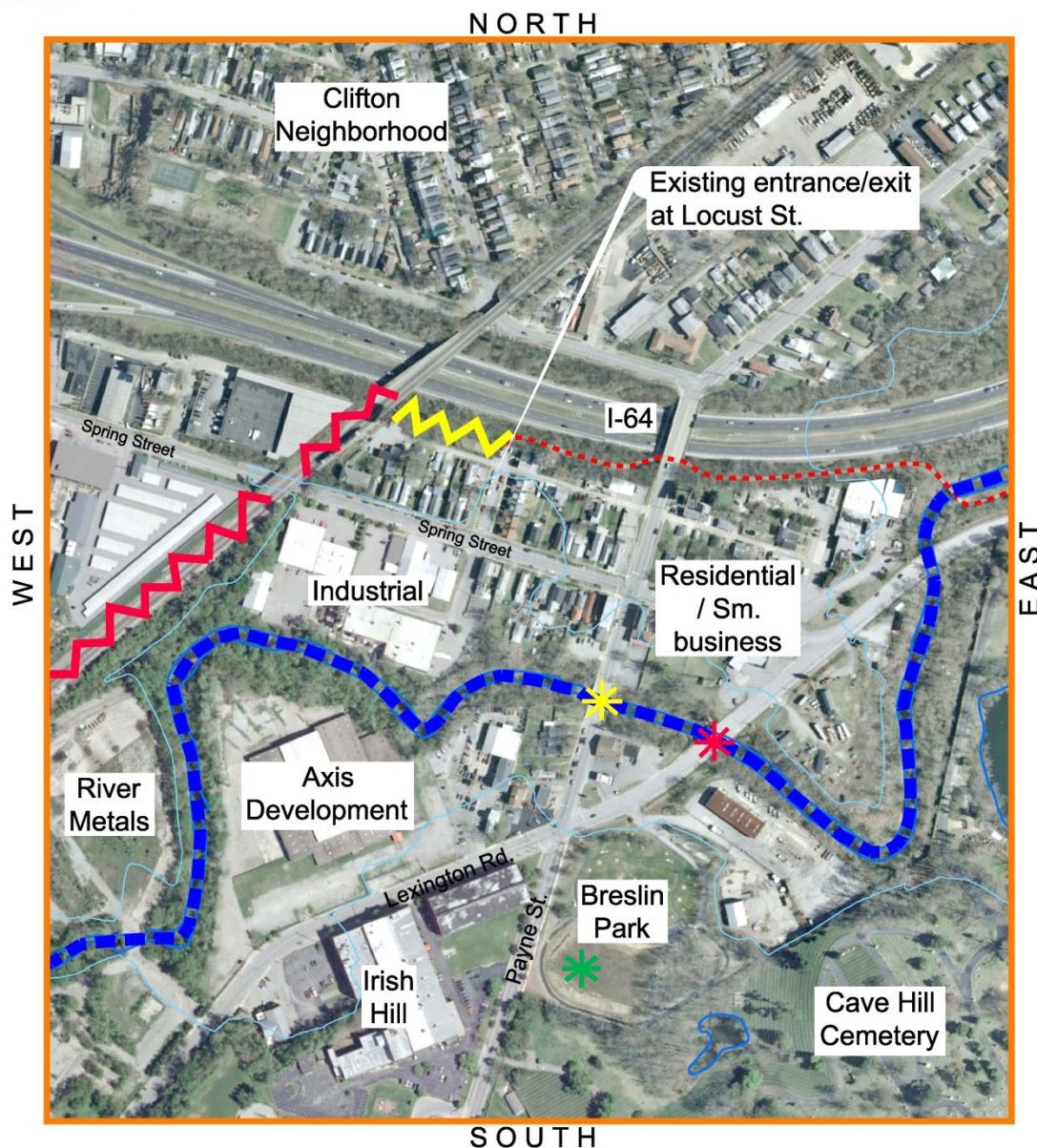
Beargrass Creek Trail

Beargrass Creek Greenway Trail





Beargrass Creek Trail



Opportunities:

Area #2

- Connect to Breslin Park *
- Potential trail connection to Cave Hill Cemetery, pending approval
- Connect to Irish Hill Neighborhood
- Trail underpass will work under Payne Street Bridge *
- Trail underpass will work under Lexington Road Bridge *

Issues / Constraints:

- Steep grade between Locust St / CSX; difficult to follow I-64 at this point *
- CSX heavily used; safe crossings difficult *
- Continuing trail on Locust St. requires transgressing industrial zone and crossing Spring Street







Beargrass Creek Trail

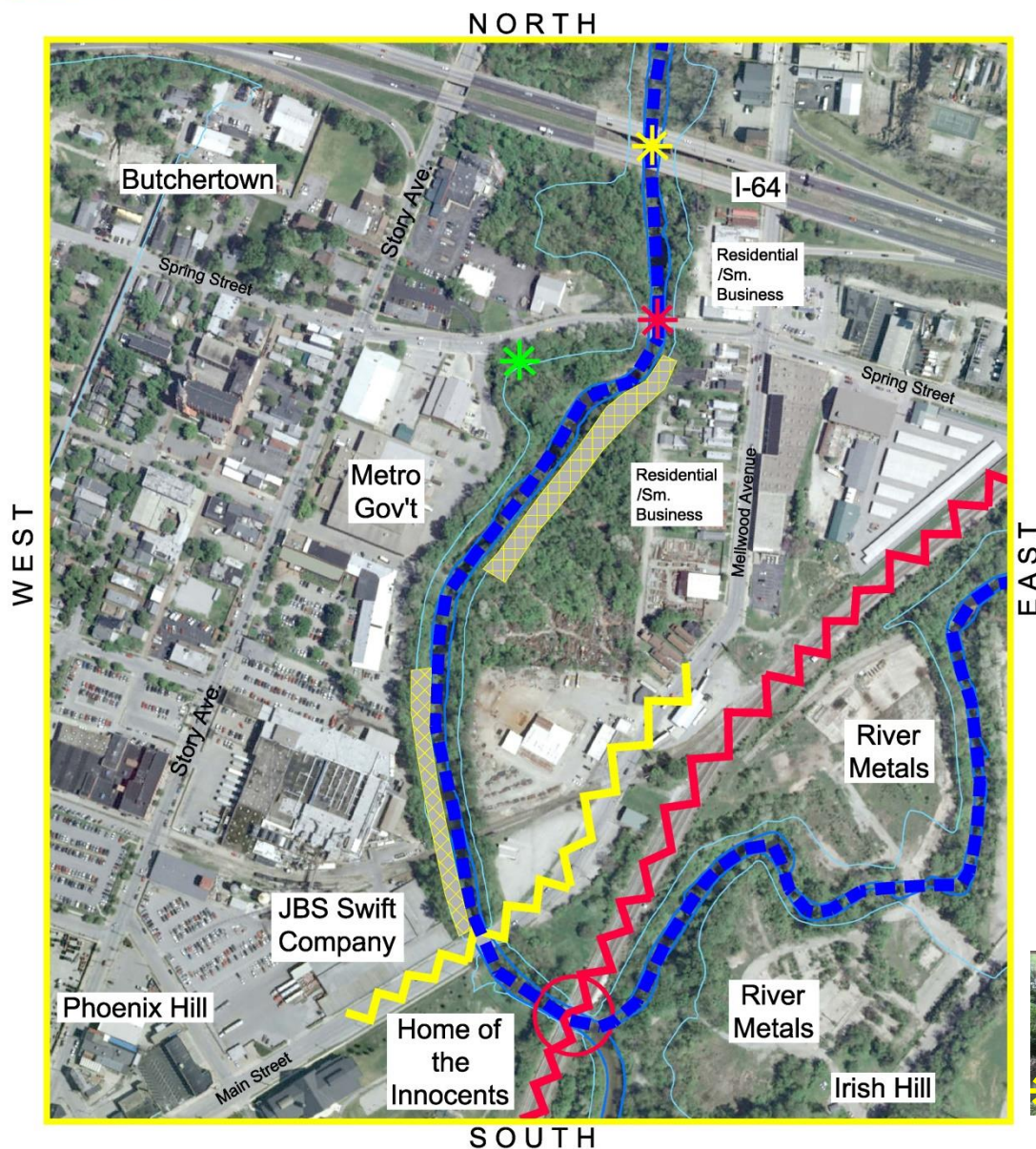
Locust Street Trail Entrance





Beargrass Creek Trail

Area #3



Opportunities:

- Potential to restore creek at River Metals property in future
- Connect to neighborhoods such as Irish Hill, Phoenix Hill and Butchertown
- Trail underpass will work under I-64 *
- Trail underpass will work under Spring Street Bridge *
- Potential wetland enhancement at Spring and Beargrass Creek *

Issues / Constraints:

- CSX unsafe to cross ⚡
- Trail underpass difficult at CSX bridge over south/middle fork confluence ⚡
- Main/Mellwood heavy traffic; crossing would need activated light ⚡
- Industrial noises and smells this area
- Many segments of creek have steep slopes this area





Beargrass Creek Trail

Bridge at Interstate 64





Beargrass Creek Trail

Bridge at Spring Street





Beargrass Creek Trail

Potential Wetland Enhancement at Spring St.





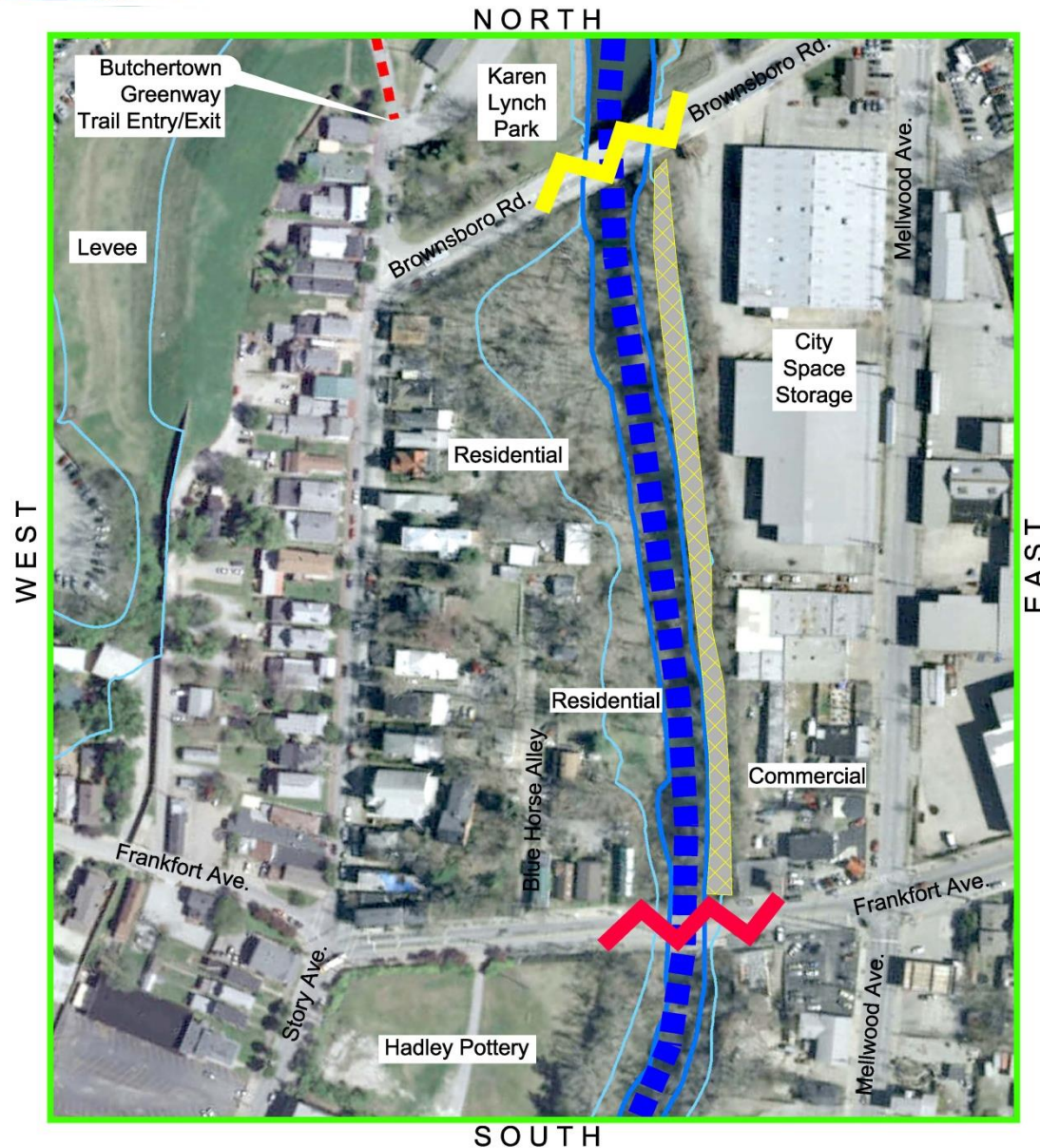
Beargrass Creek Trail

CSX bridge at south/middle fork confluence





Beargrass Creek Trail



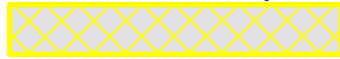


Opportunities:

Area #4

- Connect to Frankfort Avenue
- Connect to Brownsboro Road
- Connect to Butchertown businesses and community

Issues / Constraints:

- Trail underpass difficult under Frankfort Avenue bridge 
- Trail underpass difficult under Brownsboro Road bridge 
- Many segments of creek have steep slopes in this area 
- Residential property abutts creek in this area





Beargrass Creek Trail

Bridge at Frankfort Avenue





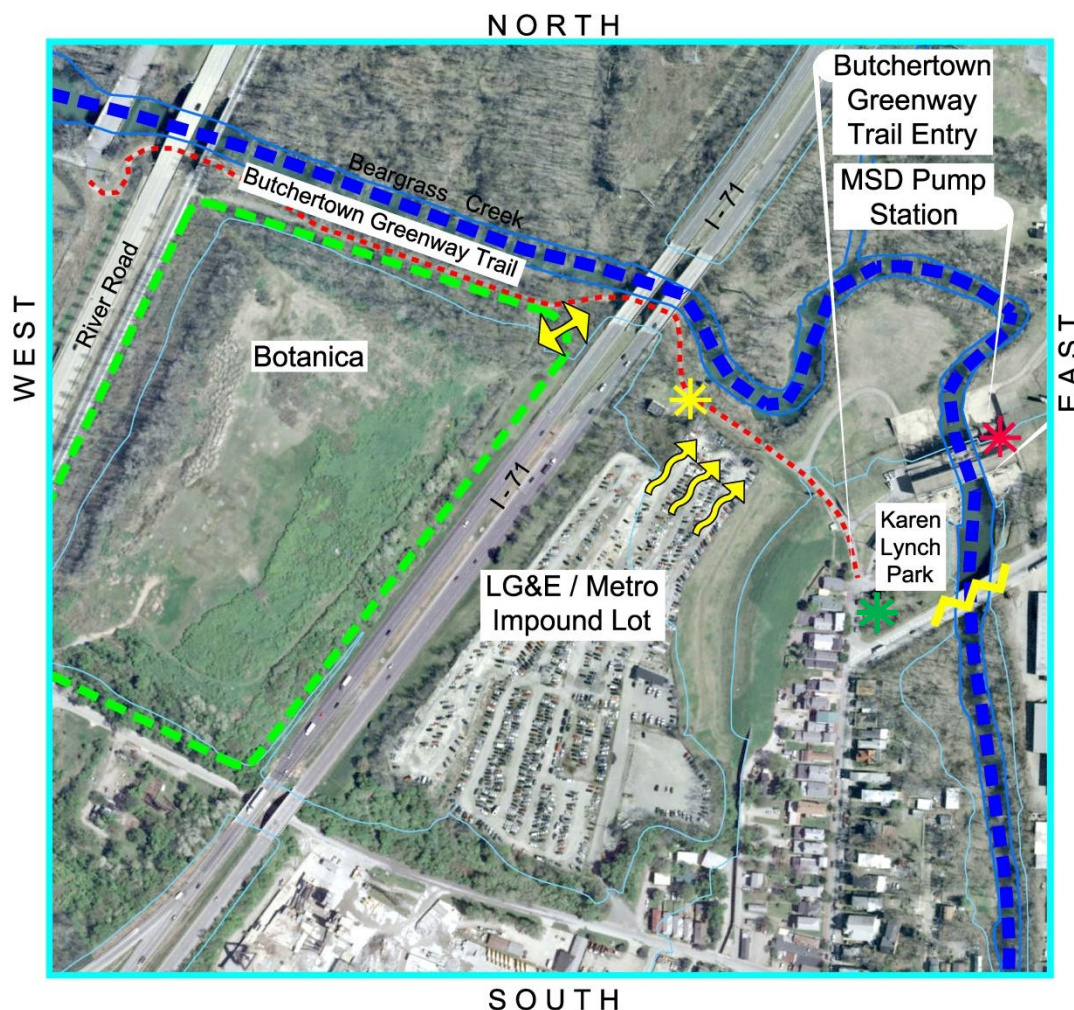
Beargrass Creek Trail

Bridge at Brownsboro Road





Beargrass Creek Trail



Opportunities:

Area #5

- Connect to Botanica - Waterfront Botanical Gardens ↕
- Connect to River Road businesses and community
- Connect to Karen Lynch Park *
- Improve quality of run-off from LG&E/Metro Impound lot →→
- Interpret/Restore Letterle Pump Station *

Issues / Constraints:

- Must navigate around MSD Beargrass Creek Pump Station *
- High traffic on Brownsboro/Story Avenue; crossing would need activated light ⚡
- LG&E/Metro Impound lot potentially causing pollution of creek →→





Beargrass Creek Trail

Entrance to Butchertown Greenway





Beargrass Creek Trail

LG&E / Metro Impound Lot





Beargrass Creek Trail

Letterle Pump Station





Beargrass Creek Trail

Project Limits and Focus Areas

